Message Text

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TAGS: ECOSOC, EGEN, UN

SUBJECT: AD HOC COMMITTEE ON RESTRUCTURING: MAY 5 MEETING

1. AT ITS MAY 5.MEETING THE AD HOC COMMITTEE ON RESTRUCTURING CONSIDERED, BUT IN A HIGHLY INCONCLUSIVE WAY, PARAA 1-7 OF PART II OF THE CONSOLIDATED TEXT ON ECOSOC WORK METHODS. THE UK ON BEHALF OF THE EC-9 AND SUPPORTED BY SWEDEN AND NORWAY MOVED AT THE OUTSET FOR ADOPTION OF THE TEXT OF PART II AS IT STOOD (SUBJECT TO CERTAIN CLARIFICATIONS), BUT THE USSR AND PAKISTAN (SPEAKING FOR THE G-77) QUICKLY UNDERCUT THIS MOVE. A RAMBLING PARAGRAPH-BY-PARAGRAPH CONSIDERATION ENSUED THROUGH PARA 7 CULMINATING IN AN UNDERTAKING BY PAKISTAN TO FURNISH G-77 RE-FORMULATIONS FOR PARAS 3,4 AND 6 WHICH PAKISTAN SAW AS BEING INTERLINKED. EARLIER IN THE MEETING, HOWEVER, PAKISTAN HAD IDENTIFIED PARAS 3. 6 AND 7 AS BEING THOSE INTERCONNECTED. AND SUBSEQUENTLY INCLUDED PARA 5 AS NEEDING HARMONIZATION. JAMAICA ADDED THAT PARA 7 WOULD NEED TO BE TREATED AS PART OF THE PACKAGE. THE MEETING CLOSED WITH AN UNCLEAR UNDERSTANDING THAT PAKISTAN WOULD DEVELOP HARMINIZED REVISIONS FOR SOME OR ALL OF THESE PARAS. LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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2. SOME SPECIFIC POINTS WERE ESTABLISHED DURING DEBATE:

(A) THE US SPOKESMAN DEFENDED THE CONCEPT OF INSTITUTIONALIZING INTER-SESSIONAL MEETINGS AGAINST A SOVIET MOVE FOR DELETION OF THE 8TH FOOTNOTE TO THE TITLE (WHICH DEFERS CONSIDERATION OF INCLUDING A SEPARATE

PARA ON THIS.)

- (B) AT G-77 REQUEST THE CLOSING PHRASE OF PARA 1 (C) CALLING UPON ECOSOC "TO ARTICULATE PRIORITIES" WAS PLACED IN BRACKETS.
- (C) PAKISTAN HAD DIFFICULTY WITH THE CONCEPT OF ECOSOC ITSELF PREPARING A "PROGRAM OF WORK" AND, DESPITE STRENUOUS EFFORTS BY THE UK AND CANADA TO EXPLAIN THE CONCEPT AND NEED FOR IT, THIS PHRASE IN PARA 2 ALSO WAS PUT INTO BRACKETS.
- (D) JAPAN PROPOSED THAT THE LAST PHRASE OF PARA 46 (B) OF THE GROUP OF EXPERTS REPORT (FROM THE SEMICOLON ON) BE INSERTED AS THE SECOND SENTENCE OF PARA 3 TO PROVIDE BETTER DEFINITION OF THE WORK TO BE ORGANIZED BY ECOSOC.
- 3. THE SOVIET REP CONTINUED TO PLAY AN ACTIVE OBSTRUCTIONIST ROLE, BALKING AT THE TERMINOLOGY USED THROUGHOUT IN DISTINGUISHING AMONG THE DIFFERENT ORDER PROPOSED FOR ECOSOC SESSIONS, ARGUING THAT PAST RESOLUTIONS AND CHANGES ALREADY MADE IN THE RULES OF PROCEDURE HAVE ACCOMPLISHED REFORMS NOW BEING PROPOSED AS INNOVATIONS, AND REMARKING DISDAINFULLY THAT ECOSOC "IS DROWNING IN SESSIONS."

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